

## WASHINGTON.

DISCUSSING THE ELECTION NEWS IN  
AND ABOUT THE CAPITOL.

A Democratic-Seminar and Its Alleged Cause—Mr. Cabell and the Revenue Raisers—Personal.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The election news from different parts of the country was pretty generally discussed about the corridors and the committee-rooms to-day. One of the most complete seminars in the political arena has occurred in Madison, Wis., the home of Postmaster-General Vilas. That city has a population of 12,000, and has never since the war fallen below 900 in its Democratic majority, and has on several occasions increased it to 1,500. At the election on Tuesday last the Republicans carried the city by 500 majority, notwithstanding the Democratic candidate for mayor was the most popular man in the city, and had been elected to the position on several occasions. The reason assigned for the sweeping Republican victory is general apathy on the part of Democrats caused by the refusal of the President to recognize the party in the distribution of public patronage.

Hon. George C. Cabell called on Commissioner of Internal Revenue Miller this morning in regard to the raids by special revenue agents against armed post-office employees. Several of the counties of his district, Mr. Cabell claims that these raids were imprudent, if not useless; that the work done by the raiders could have been accomplished in a better and more humane way by local officers, and he protested in the strongest terms against any continuance of such a course.

The post-office appropriation bill, which passed the House to-day, perpetuates a peculiarity that has existed since 1876. In that year the amount set apart for the salaries of the clerks in the railway mail service was not sufficient to pay them in full according to classification. In view of this General-Superintendent Thompson made an agreement with the men of the \$1,200 class, \$1,150 and the \$1,400 class \$1,300 per year. Since then the appropriation bills for this branch of the service have provided for paying these men not to exceed \$1,200 and \$1,400. This "not to exceed" has kept the salaries at \$1,150 and \$1,300. Not only this, but for a long time there was an order in vogue forbidding the clerks to petition Congress for a restoration of their salaries under penalty of discharge. This order was carried into effect in the case of at least one petitioner.

The claim of the Fairfax Seminary for \$20,000 for rent of its property to the Government for four years for hospital purposes has been cut down. The trustees put in a claim of \$5,000 per year, but the Court of Claims would allow but \$1,200. The finding of the court has been sent to the committee on War Claims of the House.

The committee on Commerce of the House has reported a substitute for the bill appropriating \$60,000 for a lightship at the mouth of the Chesapeake bay. The substitute, which was reported by the committee on Rivers and Harbors, renders a lightship at the point indicated absolutely unnecessary to the shipping of those cities.

Hon. C. T. O'Ferrall is in hopes of being able to secure an adverse report from the committee of Commerce on the bill providing for free fishing in all the streams in the United States. The measure, should it be adopted, would work great injustice to the State of Virginia in particular. Mr. O'Ferrall is also opposing the bill allowing commercial travelers to exhibit samples and dispose of goods in all States and cities without procuring a license to do so, as now required by law in many localities. He takes the ground that the General Government has no right to meddle with the matter, and that by doing so it is with the license a considerable revenue would be cut off, which would have to be made good by direct taxation.

H. S. Menifee, a prominent citizen of Rappahannock county, formerly a member of the Virginia Legislature, fell and broke his leg last night, while on a visit in this city.

The House is in session this evening discussing the silver question. The bill has a clear field under to-morrow at 3 o'clock, when, under a previous order, the previous question will be called. The mails have been flooded with silver speeches for weeks, the force at the city post-office being unequal to the task of getting them out of the way. Some of the clerks have not had a salary for seven weeks, and yet 420 bags have accumulated and await distribution. Many of the employees have succumbed to overwork and are at home sick.

## XIX. CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7, 1886.

After the routine of morning business, which was very light, Mr. Call, according to notice, proceeded to address the Senate on his resolution instructing the Committee on Public Lands to report a bill to forfeit all railroad land-grants not earned within the time specified in the granting act or acts extending the time.

The general subject of land grants, Mr. Call said, was of great importance. Over 150,000,000 acres of public lands had been granted to railroad companies to aid in building their roads. In some respects Mr. Call would not object to such grants. A great public object had been accomplished, though it might have been accomplished with perhaps greater advantage to the people. Some portion of the receipts from property might have been reserved to the Government to aid education or to relieve the people from the burdens of taxation. It was not, however, as to the general subject that Mr. Call particularly wished to address the Senate, but on the subject of land grants in Florida.

Mr. Call then gave a history of those land grants and the building of a railroad in Florida, especially in connection with the corporation known as the Florida Railroad Company.

The resolution, on Mr. Call's request, was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

The debate on Mr. Logan's bill to increase the number of enlisted men in the army was renewed. Mr. Hawley spoke strongly in favor of the bill, and Messrs. Logan, Teller, Van Wyck, and others also spoke. Finally a vote was reached, and the bill was defeated—yeas, 19; nays, 21.

At 3 o'clock, according to previous agreement, a vote was taken on Mr. Hale's motion to strike out section 2 of the bill, which establishes the force at 50,000 men. The motion was lost in a vote of 22 to 22. The Republicans voting for Mr. Hale's motion were Messrs. Brown, Chase, Conger,

Hale, Ingalls, Plumb, Sherman, Teller, and Van Wyck.

The Democrats voting against it were Messrs. Brown, Gorman, Gray, and Walcott. With these exceptions the votes for the motion were Democratic and the votes against it Republican.

Mr. Manderson moved as an amendment his three-battalion organization bill, and it was agreed to.

Mr. Gibson moved to add an additional section repealing section 1218 of the Revised Statutes, which now prohibits any person who served the Confederate Government from appointment to the army of the United States.

After an interesting debate, in which Messrs. Gibson, Morgan, and Call supported this proposed amendment and Messrs. Logan and Conger opposed it, Mr. Gibson's amendment was lost—yeas, 24; nays, 25.

The bill was then put upon its final passage and defeated—yeas, 19; nays, 31.

A discussion then arose as to measures next to be considered. The Washington Territory bill had the formal right of way at 2 o'clock in the afternoon; but Messrs. Voorhees, Blair, Berry, and others indicated a desire to take up the bill after the morning session. Mr. Blair wishes private pension bills taken up as well as other pension measures, and Mr. Berry has the railroad-right-of-way bill, which he expressed a desire to have disposed of.

Adjourned at 6 o'clock.

House of Representatives.

Mr. Willis, of Kentucky, reported back the river and harbor appropriation bill from the committee having charge of the subject, and it was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

In the morning hour Mr. Dunn, of Arkansas, on behalf of the Committee on American Shipping, called up the resolution setting apart the 22d, 25th, and 26th of March for the consideration of the free-ship bill. Adopted.

The speaker laid before the House the message of the President on the subject of Chinese immigration. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The President calls attention to and recommends legislation to remedy a serious defect in the immigration act of 1884, which has the effect of depriving Chinese merchants visiting this country of the right to land that is distinctly guaranteed to them by the treaty.

At the expiration of the morning hour the debate on the silver bill was resumed.

Mr. Bland, of Missouri, entered a motion to reconsider the bill, which motion will not be acted on until the close of the debate. He then proceeded with an argument in favor of the free coinage of silver.

Mr. Norwood, of Georgia, in a dry, sarcastic manner bore testimony to the wonderful knowledge possessed by all men on questions of finance, and to several of the gentlemen who had preceded him in the debate, especially addressing himself to the satirizing of the speech of Mr. Andrus, of Maryland.

Mr. McComas, of Maryland, advocated double standard, and Mr. Bayne, of Pennsylvania, favored the suspension of silver.

Mr. Bland acknowledged consent, in view of the large number of members who desired to speak on the silver question, that the vote, which is ordered for to-morrow at 3 o'clock, should be postponed until 5 o'clock Saturday; but as that day had been set aside for the consideration of bills reported by the committee of Commerce, a member of that committee objected. A member of the committee on Claims objected to postponement until Friday.

It was agreed, however, that a vote should not be taken until 5:30 to-morrow.

The House then, at 5 o'clock, took a recess until 7 o'clock.

The debate on the silver bill was continued at the evening session—seven members on the floor and an equal number of spectators in the gallery composing the audience that was called to order by the speaker.

Mr. Daniel, of Virginia, took the stand against the suspension of silver coinage, declaring the standard dollar would be the bulwark of the banks and the gold of the Government had its hand upon the greenback, and the people were told that silver was not wholesome for them. If the coinage of silver was stopped contraction would follow, and after contraction came bankruptcy and ruin. The silver dollar was not only an honest dollar, but the most honest dollar that had emanated from the Treasury. The tendency of free silver coinage would not be to carry gold to a premium, but to put both metals on the same level. The argument that the free coinage of silver would drive gold from the country was but a second edition of the old prophecy made in 1878, that even limited coinage would drive out gold. The present condition of the country, with its silver in its condition in 1878, showed that the United States had an increased volume of \$300,000,000 of gold and \$212,000,000 of silver; yet the people were told that to coin silver would be to drive out gold.

Mr. Crisp, of Georgia, opposed any proposition to increase the amount of silver in the standard dollar. The value of that dollar was greater than that of any like coin issued by any other nation of the world. He opposed only the proposition to suspend silver coinage, maintaining that the interests of the West and South were contrary to those of the money-lending East, and would be greatly injured by the contraction of the currency which would follow that suspension.

Mr. Skinner, of North Carolina, protested against the present law as "humped-back bimetalism," and argued that the proper remedy was a free-coinage provision.

At 10:10 the House adjourned.

Post-Office Nominations Acted Upon.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 7.—At a meeting of the Senate Post-Office Committee to-day a considerable number of suspended cases were acted upon favorably. They were of three classes—first, of post-masters whose predecessors and neighbors had made no opposition or protest of any kind; second, of those against whose confirmation a protest had been made and charges filed by others than outgoing post-masters, but which charges proved on investigation by the committee to be without foundation; and third, cases in respect to which the suspended official had himself become satisfied that he was guilty of no other charges than that of partisanship and had indicated their wish that the investigation should rest there and the appointment be confirmed. The cases were mostly from Virginia and North Carolina, but there were scattering cases from other States. Among the adverse reports was that of a Virginia postmaster who, since his appointment, had published in a newspaper with which he was connected an article which was manifestly offensive to one of the Virginia senators.

At 10:10 the House adjourned.

President of Costa Rica.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Senator Peralta, the Costa Rican Minister, has telegraphed notice that General Hernandez Soto has been unanimously elected President of Costa Rica.

Secretary Manning Still Improving.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Secretary Manning continues to improve. He was permitted to get out of bed and sit up a short time to-day—the first attempt since his attack.

A Post-Office Reorganization.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The post-office safe at Clinton, Miss., was blown open and the post-office robbed last night.

Shot His Wife and Child.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

ST. FRANCIS, ARK., April 7.—William Ellis, a hard drinker, habitually abused his wife. Last Sunday, after being badly beaten, Mrs. Ellis took her child in her arms and started to a magistrate's office to procure a warrant for Ellis's arrest. Ellis followed, and shot her with a Winchester. The ball passing through the bodies of the mother and child, killing both. Ellis was hurried to jail at Reynoldsville to save him from lynching.

## THE ARMY BILL.

INTERESTING DISCUSSION IN THE  
SENATE YESTERDAY.

The Question of Admitting Ex-Confederates into the Union Army Debated at Length—The Detailed Vote on Increasing the Army.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 7.—In the debate in the Senate to-day upon Mr. Gibson's amendment to Mr. Logan's bill to repeal the section of the Revised Statutes which prohibits ex-Confederate soldiers from appointment to the United States army Mr. Gibson spoke at some length, reading from the Constitution and from the decisions of the Supreme Court to show that section 1218 of the Revised Statutes was unconstitutional. It was also in conflict, he said, with the generous and magnanimous course of the Government toward the people of the United States—speaking especially of the people of the North toward those who were engaged in the service of the Confederacy. It was an extraordinary spectacle, that presented by this nation, that men who few years ago were engaged in rebellion against the United States were to-day members of the Senate—treated as peers of those who upheld the Union cause. Men who were honored as Ministers of the United States in the courts of Europe and might become judges of the Supreme Court of the United States—even Chief Justices—were men who had served the Confederate Government. This was a remarkable circumstance in the history, not only of the United States, but of civilization itself, and a charge which the people of this epoch as the most magnanimous known to history. The statute which prohibited men who served the Confederacy from being appointed to the United States army, Mr. Gibson thought, could only be regarded as a bar sinister and not in harmony with the spirit which characterized the treatment of the Southern people after the war.

Mr. Logan thought that it might not be well to go too fast. He thought that in the eyes of the people there were certain persons more culpable than others. Those were the men who had been officers of the army and navy before the war and had entered the service of the Confederacy. Mr. Gibson's suggestion of an amendment of Mr. Gibson's motion so as to cover that class of people.

Mr. Gibson could not accept the amendment.

Mr. Beck thought Mr. Logan's amendment useless.

Mr. Butler suggested that in case of a foreign war there were many men who would be competent to command brigades and divisions, but would be excluded by Mr. Logan's suggested amendment.

Mr. Logan said that when that time should arrive the country would not doubt appreciate the services of those men.

Mr. Sewell, as a member of the Military Committee, favored Mr. Gibson's amendment. When one third of the Senate were men who had served in the Confederate army, he thought that section 1218 of the Revised Statutes had outlived its usefulness.

Mr. Morgan said the country had very largely outgrown the feeling that prompted the enactment of that section. If he could judge by the expressions of senators and of gentlemen who had been in the Union army. The law was undoubtedly unconstitutional. The point involved was that a man that lived in the South could not be appointed in the army; he must live in the North. When senators were asking for money to increase the army, which money came from the pockets of all the people, senators must not expect other senators to violate their sense of constitutional obligation and their sense of respect for the men who had grown up with them and worked with them. He (Morgan) would never vote for a bill to increase the army while a single man was excluded, unless it was declared Davis, and he mentioned him because he knew Davis would not accept. That was Mr. Morgan's view of the question, and he was sorry that any occasion had arisen for its discussion.

Mr. Call thought the time had come when the transactions of the war might be regarded as matters of history. He thought he saw on the other side of the chamber and throughout the entire country a disposition to forget whatever was violent and bitter and to accept the past as one of the inevitable consequences of providential arrangement. The time had come when we might speak a word in defense of the men who acted in accordance with their conscientious convictions, whatever they may have been. He was not in correctness of those convictions, and who followed those convictions even until death.

Mr. Call believed that if the Federal General Grant and General Lee were living and a foreign war would arise, Grant would select Lee for a high command in the Union army. Who would doubt the loyalty of General Lee in a restored Union?

Mr. Conger ventured to think that the soldiers of the Union who would read this discussion would wonder whether it was not they who were wrong in the late war. The honey and molasses speeches of to-day would indicate that our southern brethren were forced by providential circumstances, compelled by an overwhelming "iron" to enter upon the war. He (Conger) had been waiting some years for this day to come. It had come a little earlier than he had expected. Some senators did not see that they were traitors to their country. Some of them undoubtedly regretted that there was not now a Southern Confederacy with the United States, and that slavery as the keystone of its organization. These views, however, were not expressed in these piling times of peace. The time had not come for that exhibition of sentiment, or for a proposed return to a similar condition of opposition to this Government if there should be any cause for withdrawing allegiance to it. Senators wanted to repeal this little distinction between loyalty and treachery. Probably to-morrow, or perhaps the day after, for these things must not follow too fast—we should be called upon to vote the Confederates thanks for their bravery. Mr. Conger supposed they would hardly expect him to express thanks for their loyalty. That would be almost too much. He would say to the gentlemen that they were the rebels of the Grand Army of the Republic and those who deserted their country and fought for the destruction of its institutions. He expected to live to see the time when an attempt would be made to put Confederate soldiers on the pension-roll of the Government. Mr. Conger had not opened his discussion. Our friends about these old matters, God's sake, would be the dumbest brutes under God's heaven if they did not speak when they brought

in their "amendments" and bills that opened up these old matters. No matter how many bills and amendments are brought in involving old issues, the Republican side of the chamber was taunted with reviving the past if it made reference to them. Every man that wore the blue had been driven from the South except when Texas. He was driven across the borders of the Rio Grande. The men that wore the blue were called for. Who ever heard of a call for United States troops when human life was jeopardized in the South? The call came soon enough when the long-horned steers of Texas were in jeopardy. [Laughter.]

The following is the detailed vote on the bill:

YEAS: Messrs. Blair, Cameron, Dawes, Joseph, Evans, Frye, Hawley, Logan, McMillen, Mahone, Mitchell of Oregon, Morrill, Pettibone, Sherman, Teller, Tilden, Spooner, and Stanford—19.

NOYAYS: Messrs. Beck, Berry, Brown, Call, Chandler, Cockrell, Coke, Colquhoun, Conger, Davis, Fair, Gibson, Gorman, Hale, Ingalls, Jones of Nevada, Keim, Maxey, Morgan, Plumb, Pugh, Sawyer, Sherman, Teller, Van Wyck, Vest, Wilson, and Wood—21.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER.

His Arrival at San Francisco and the Indignity to Which He Was Subjected.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, April 7.—The Chinese Minister at Washington has made a formal complaint to the Secretary of State in regard to the treatment of his successor at San Francisco at the hands of United States customs officers. He bases his claim on information received from the Chinese Consul-General at San Francisco, who, it is understood, alleges that the new Minister and his suite were subjected to unusual and unnecessary annoyance and discourtesy on their arrival at that port.

The Secretary of State referred the matter to the acting Secretary of the Treasury, who this afternoon telegraphed to the collector of customs at San Francisco for a statement of the conduct of his officers in the matter. Some surprise is expressed at the Treasury Department that the landing of the Minister should have been attended by any delay or embarrassment, in view of the fact that the collector at San Francisco had been specially instructed to expedite the landing of the Chinese Minister, followed by his suite of about twenty persons, was about to land at San Francisco from the steamer Gaelic, he was stopped by a customs officer, who informed him he could not land until he had shown by properly authenticated documents that he was entitled to land in the United States.

The Chinese Consul-General, who was waiting to receive the distinguished countryman, was indignant, but the customs officer persisted, and the Minister produced his credentials accrediting him as Minister to the United States Government. That was not sufficient, however, and the Minister's passport was produced, and after a duplicate certified copy had been made, the Minister proceeded to land.

A press dispatch received here at 2 o'clock to-morrow says that as the Chinese Minister, followed by his suite of about twenty persons, was about to land at San Francisco from the steamer Gaelic, he was stopped by a customs officer, who informed him he could not land until he had shown by properly authenticated documents that he was entitled to land in the United States.

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## THE GREAT STRIKES.

RIOTOUS DEMONSTRATIONS IN EAST  
ST. LOUIS—WORK STOPPED.

The Situation Last Night at All Disturbed Points on the Great System—The Troubles Elsewhere.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

ST. LOUIS, April 7.—A riot broke out in East St. Louis to-day. A large crowd of strikers, numbering over one thousand men, formed about noon at the Relay depot, and headed by leaders of the strikers in that city, marched to the Ohio and Mississippi railroad depot, where a number of platform-men were at work. No guard of police or deputy sheriffs had been stationed there, and the employees were easily forced from their positions. Thence the mob advanced upon the Vandalla yards. Here a few deputies on duty ordered the men back. They refused and made a rush, beating the officers down and swarming through the gates into the yards and forced all the employees at work out of the yards. From this place they marched to the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy yards, where a similar scene was enacted and all the employees forced out. The men then rushed on to the Chicago and Alton yards, and upon arriving there were met by a strong force of deputy marshals armed with Winchester repeating-rifles. They ordered the mob back, and called upon them to disperse. This the crowd refused to do, and upon attempting to rush through the gates the marshals threatened to fire if the crowd advanced. This cooled their ardor somewhat, and they turned back; none the less determined, however, that they should be no work done in that city while the Knights of Labor are still on their strike. The deputies remained on guard at the Alton yards, fearing a second attack upon that point, while the strikers proceeded to the Cairo Short-Line yards. Upon arriving there the mob